

# THE FINAL ONE

## HOPKINS VS. JOE SMITH JR.

### DEC 17 2016 - THE FORUM



## THE EXECUTIONER RETURNS FOR 'THE FINAL ONE'

**FORMER TWO-DIVISION WORLD CHAMPION  
AND FUTURE HALL OF FAME BERNARD HOPKINS TO TAKE ON  
RISING LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CONTENDER JOE SMITH, JR.  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT THE FABULOUS FORUM IN INGLEWOOD  
TELEVISED LIVE ON HBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING®**

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO WATCH THE PROMO VIDEO**

***Tickets on Sale Monday, October 24th!***

LOS ANGELES (October 17, 2016) - A boxing legend will look to add an exclamation point to end his professional career with the same style, speed and slickness that has defined him in the ring for nearly three decades, as 51-year-old, two-division former world champion and Future Hall of Famer Bernard "The Executioner" Hopkins (55-7-2, 32 KOs) prepares to square off against hard-hitting Light Heavyweight contender Joe Smith, Jr. (21-1, 18 KOs) in a 12-round fight from Los Angeles' iconic Fabulous Forum. The bout will take place Saturday, December 17 and will be televised live on HBO World Championship Boxing®.

Tickets for the fight - named, "The Final One" -- will go on sale Monday, October 24th at 10:00 a.m. PT.

Hopkins' resume reads like a Hall-of-Fame induction ballot. Between holding the record for the record number of title defenses as middleweight champion of the world (20) and moving up to light heavyweight to capture multiple belts in that division, Hopkins fought and defeated a who's who of boxing world champions throughout his remarkable 28-year career.

Roy Jones, Jr., John David "Action" Jackson, Glen "Road Warrior" Johnson, Felix "Tito" Trinidad, Antonio "Magic Man" Tarver, Kelly "The Ghost" Pavlik, Jean Pascal, Chad "Bad" Dawson, and Golden Boy Promotions business partner Oscar De La Hoya all tasted defeat at the hands of the executioner.

"While 'The Alien' may be retired, the 'Executioner' has one fight left, and Joe Smith Jr., is going to find out the hard way how well prepared I am for my final fight," Bernard Hopkins said. "A lot of people will focus on my age, the history of my run in the sport, the titles, etc...but I'm focused on one thing - knocking Joe Smith out."

Joe Smith Jr., who was born in 1989, nearly three years after Hopkins had his first fight, is coming off the victory of his career, delivering a brutal first-round knockout of established contender Andrzej Fonfara in June and earning the WBC International Light Heavyweight Championship. The belt will not be at stake in this fight.

"I'm very excited about fighting on HBO," said Joe Smith Jr. "I know now all my hard work and dedication has paid off. I am looking forward to retiring a boxing legend"

"To accomplish what Bernard has over the course of nearly 30 years inside the ring and still competing at the highest level of the sport at the age of 51; what else can you call him but a bona fide legend," said Oscar De La Hoya, Chairman and CEO of Golden Boy Promotions. "All of us at Golden Boy Promotions are so proud to work with Bernard each and every day and can't wait to give him the send-off he deserves with an incredibly, dynamic promotion over the next two months."

"I'm thrilled that we have put together this exciting fight," said Joe DeGuardia, President and CEO of Star Boxing. "What a great opportunity for Joe Smith Jr. to follow-up on his sensational victory on national TV with a fight against a legend like Bernard Hopkins on HBO. "

"For any generation and in any sport, Bernard Hopkins is an athletic marvel who has defied time and the odds as deftly as he has his critics, and he returns to HBO for the 23rd time when he faces Joe Smith in the iconic setting of the Forum in Inglewood, CA," said Peter Nelson, executive Vice President, HBO Sports. "Bernard's mark on the sport is already an indelible one, and one day he'll be enshrined in the Hall of Fame. Dec. 17 will be a memorable night of boxing for everybody associated with Team Hopkins, and we are excited to telecast his farewell fight."

"We are proud to welcome our friends at Golden Boy Promotions and HBO back to the 'Fabulous' Forum when we host this highly-anticipated Dec. 17th battle between light heavyweights Bernard Hopkins and Joe Smith Jr.," said Nick Spampanato, Senior Vice President West Coast and General Manager of The Forum and MSG.

Golden Boy Promotions is currently working on a new co-main event, as an injury to Orlando "Siri" Salido's back has forced him off the card. Golden Boy will announce the co-main and full card in the coming weeks.

**TV MAIN EVENT – LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS - 12 ROUNDS**

**Bernard Hopkins**



**Nickname:** The Executioner  
**DOB:** 01/15/1965  
**Age:** 51  
**Hometown:** Philadelphia, PA  
**Fight record:** 55-7-2, 32 KOs  
**Height:** 6'1"  
**Stance:** Orthodox  
**Instagram:** @BHOPDaAlien  
**Twitter:** @THEREALBHOP

**Joe Smith Jr.**



**Nickname:** N/A  
**DOB:** 09/20/1989  
**Age:** 27  
**Hometown:** Long Island, NY  
**Fight record:** 22-1, 18 KOs  
**Height:** 6'0"  
**Stance:** Orthodox  
**Instagram:** @joesmithjr631  
**Twitter:** @beastsmithjr

**Hopkins vs. Smith** is a 12-round light heavyweight battle presented by Golden Boy Promotions in association with Star Boxing and sponsored by Cerveza Tecate, BORN BOLD and Casa Mexico Tequila. The event will be televised live on HBO's flagship series beginning at 10:00 p.m. ET/PT.

Tickets priced at \$205, 105, \$75, \$50, and \$25, not including applicable service charges and taxes, with a total ticket limit of 12 per person, go on sale Monday October 24, 2016 at 10:00 am PST. To charge by phone with a major credit card, call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000. Tickets also will be available for purchase at [www.fabulousforum.com](http://www.fabulousforum.com) or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

For more information, visit [www.goldenboypromotions.com](http://www.goldenboypromotions.com), [www.starboxing.com](http://www.starboxing.com), [www.hbo.com/boxing](http://www.hbo.com/boxing) and [www.fabulousforum.com](http://www.fabulousforum.com); follow on Twitter at @GoldenBoyBoxing, @starboxing, @HBOBoxing, @therealbhop, @beastsmithjr and @TheForum; become a fan on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GoldenBoyBoxing](http://www.facebook.com/GoldenBoyBoxing), <https://www.facebook.com/StarBoxing/>, , [www.facebook.com/HBOBoxing](http://www.facebook.com/HBOBoxing) and [www.facebook.com/TheForum](http://www.facebook.com/TheForum); and visit us on Instagram @GoldenBoyBoxing, @HBOBoxing. Follow the conversation using #HopkinsSmith.

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